

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

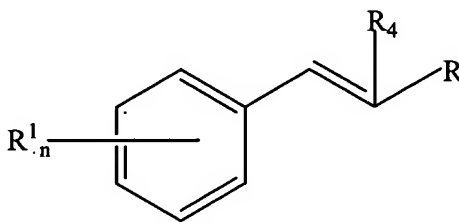
This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the subject application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Previously cancelled).

Claim 2 (Currently amended): A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising at least one aromatic compound having the formula



wherein R represents $-CHO$, $-CH_2OH$, $-COOH$, or $-COOR_5$; n is an integer from 0 to 3; each R^1 represents $-OH$, or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms, wherein the total number of carbon and heteroatoms in all R^1 substituents is no more than 15; R_4 represents $-H$ or an organic constituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and R_5 represents an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms; and wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said at least one aromatic compound, whereby said sustained resistance is provided to said plant.

Claim 6 (Previously amended): The method according to claim 2, wherein said aromatic compound is one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

Claim 7 (Previously cancelled).

Claim 8 (Previously amended): The method according to Claim 41, wherein said-polymer is beeswax or carnauba wax.

Claims 9 to 14 (Previously cancelled).

Claim 15 (Previously amended): The method according to Claim 2 or 8, wherein said composition further comprises a surfactant.

Claims 16 to 20. (Previously cancelled).

Claim 22 (Previously amended): The method according to claim 15, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of soil-borne pathogens.

Claim 23 (Previously cancelled).

Claim 24 (Previously amended): The method according to claim 22, wherein said administering to said plant consists of application by foliar spray.

Claim 25 (Previously added): The method according to Claim 15 wherein said surfactant is Tween 80 or saponin.

Claim 26 (Currently amended): A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde, wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said one or more aromatic aldehydes, whereby said sustained resistance is provided to said plant.

Claim 27 (Previously cancelled).

Claim 28 (Previously amended): The method according to Claim 42, wherein said polymer is beeswax or carnauba wax.

Claim 29 (Previously cancelled).

Claim 30 (Previously amended): The method according to Claim 26, wherein said plant is selected from the group consisting of a rose, a grape, a tomato, and a bell pepper.

Claim 31 (Previously added): The method according to Claim 26, wherein said composition further comprises a surfactant.

Claim 32 (Previously added): The method according to Claim 31 wherein said surfactant is Tween 80 or saponin.

Claim 33 (Previously added): The method according to Claim 26, wherein said composition further comprises a salt of a polyprotic acid.

Claim 34 (Previously added): The method according to Claim 33, wherein said salt of a polyprotic acid is sodium bicarbonate.

Claim 35 (Previously amended): The method according to Claim 6, wherein said at least one aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

Claim 36 (Previously amended): The method according to claim 41, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi.

Claim 37 (Previously amended): The method according to Claim 26, wherein said one or more aromatic aldehydes are selected from the group consisting of alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α -amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

Claim 38 (Currently amended): The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of soil borne pathogens.

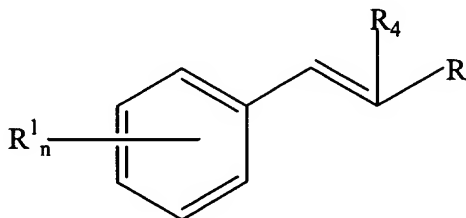
Claim 39 (Currently amended): The method according to Claim 26, wherein said pathological microorganisms are selected from the group consisting of fungi.

Claim 40 (Currently amended): ~~The~~A method according to claim 2, wherein said at least one or more aromatic compounds is for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising α -hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, wherein said composition is free of other antioxidants, whereby said sustained resistance is provided to said plant.

Claim 41 (Previously added): A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said susceptible plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising at least one aromatic compound having the formula



wherein R represents -CHO, -CH₂OH, -COOH, or -COOR₅; n is an integer from 0 to 3; each R¹ represents -OH, or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms, wherein the total number of said carbon atoms and heteroatoms in all R¹ substituents is no more than 15; R₄ represents -H or an organic constituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and R₅ represents an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms; and wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said at least one aromatic compound and said at least one aromatic compound is microencapsulated in a polymer that releases said aromatic compound, whereby said sustained resistance is provided to said plant.

Claim 42 (Previously added): The method according to claim 41, wherein said at least one aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde, alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde.

Claim 43 (Previously added): A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathologic organisms, said method comprising:

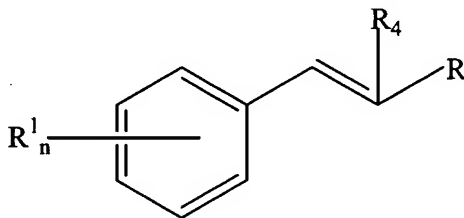
administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising one or more aromatic aldehydes selected from the group consisting of cinnamic aldehyde alpha-hexyl cinnamic aldehyde, α-amyl cinnamic aldehyde, and coniferyl aldehyde, wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than one or more aromatic aldehydes and said one or more aromatic aldehydes are microencapsulated in a polymer that releases said one or more aromatic aldehydes, and wherein said pathologic organisms are selected from the group

consisting ~~consisting~~ of thrips, aphids, spider mites, arachnids, nematodes, and leafhoppers,
whereby said sustained resistance is provided to said plant.

Claim 44 (Previously added): The method according to claim 43, wherein said polymer is beeswax or canauba wax.

Claim 45 (New): A method for providing a susceptible plant with sustained resistance to pathological microorganisms, said method comprising:

administering to said plant a nonphytotoxic composition comprising at least one aromatic compound having the formula



wherein R represents -CHO, -CH₂OH, -COOH, or -COOR₅; n is an integer from 1 to 3; each R¹ represents -OH, or an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms, wherein the total number of carbon and heteroatoms in all R¹ substituents is no more than 15; R₄ represents -H or an organic constituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms; and R₅ represents an organic substituent containing from 1 to 10 carbon atoms and from 0 to 5 heteroatoms; and wherein said composition is free of antioxidants other than said at least one aromatic compound, whereby sustained resistance is provided to said plant.